

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Antonio Cantoni et al
Serial No. : 09/919,725
Filed : July 31, 2001
Title : TRANSFER OF MESSAGES IN A MULTIPLEXED SYSTEM

Art Unit : 2731
Examiner : A. Hsu

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend this application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 16 and 24.

Please amend the remaining claims to read as follows:

15. **(Amended)** A method of transmitting variable length messages on a network from a source to a destination, said method comprising

segmenting each message into a plurality of fixed length slots, each of which slots includes a header field and a message segment,

providing a source identifier field in the header field of each slot, said source identifier field including a source identifier code that is uniquely associated with the message to be transmitted,

transmitting the slots on the network,

providing a type field in the header of each slot,

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

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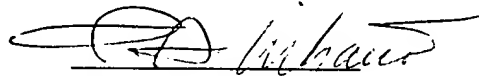
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Sir:

Attached to this facsimile communication cover sheet is a Second Preliminary Amendment, faxed this day of October 19, 2001, to Group 2731, the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 19, 2001



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